

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/067,056

Examiner

Kelly L. Jerabek

Applicant(s)

HIRAI, SHINYA

Art Unit

2612

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 1/31/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3 (renumbered as 1), 4-8, 12-13 (renumbered as 2-3), 16-18 (renumbered as 9-11) and 24-26 (renumbered as 12-14).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

***Allowable Subject Matter***

**Claims 3 (renumbered as 1), 4-8, 12-13 (renumbered as 2-3), 16-18 (renumbered as 9-11) and 24-26 (renumbered as 12-14) are allowed.**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Re claims 3 (renumbered as 1), 12-13 (renumbered as 2-3), 16 (renumbered as 9), and 24 (renumbered as 12), the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest "A signal processing apparatus for interpolating an output color signal from an image sensing device, comprising: a first interpolating device...; a second interpolating device...; a third interpolating device...; a determining device...; a selecting device...; an output device...; wherein if said determining device is expected to determine that the correlation in the first and second directions would become equal, said output device generates an interpolated signal by performing weighting such that the interpolated data based on the output from said first interpolating device is weighted more than the output interpolated data from said selecting device".

Re claims 4, 17 (renumbered as 10) and 25 (renumbered as 13), the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest "A signal processing apparatus for interpolating an output color signal from an image sensing device, comprising: a first interpolating device...; a second interpolating device...; a third interpolating device...; a determining device...; a

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selecting device...; an output device...; wherein said second interpolating device performs interpolation on the basis of pixel data, in the first direction, over a broader range than that when said first interpolating device performs interpolation”.

Re claims 5, 18 (renumbered as 11) and 26 (renumbered as 14), the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest “A signal processing apparatus for interpolating an output color signal from an image sensing device, comprising: a first interpolating device...; a second interpolating device...; a third interpolating device...; a determining device...; a selecting device...; an output device...; wherein said third interpolating device performs interpolation on the basis of pixel data, in the second direction, over a broader range than that when said first interpolating device performs interpolation”.

Re claims 6-8, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest “A signal processing apparatus for interpolating an output color signal from an image sensing device, comprising: a first interpolating device...; a second interpolating device...; a third interpolating device...; a determining device...; a selecting device...; an output device...; wherein said selecting device selects one of a difference between the output interpolated data from said second interpolating device and the output interpolated data from said first interpolating device, and a difference between the output interpolated data from said third interpolating device and the output interpolated data from said first interpolating device”.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

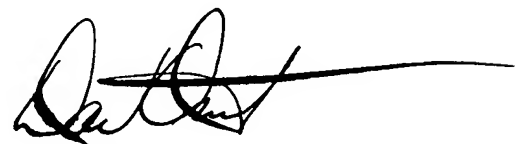
### ***Contacts***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kelly L. Jerabek whose telephone number is (571) 272-7312. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for submitting all Official communications is (703) 872-9306. The fax phone number for submitting informal communications such as drafts, proposed amendments, etc., may be faxed directly to the Examiner at (571) 273-7312.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KLJ



DAVID OMETZ  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER